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dreams, and sacrifices made to them are often very heavy; so the Prince of Wied reports that at the feast of puberty among the Mandans the sacrifices sometimes consisted of finger-joints. Many of the phratries also bear the names of animals, and Frazer thinks it rather probable that they once were clan-totems also. Frazer's little book, which was published in 1887 in Edinburgh, may be warmly recommended not only to beginners but also to the more advanced students of ethnologic science as an encyclopedic treatise of the subject presented.

A. S. G.

Die Welt in ihren Spiegelungen unter dem Wandel des Völkergedankens.
Von A. Bastian. Berlin, 1887. 8°. Pp. 480.

The most prolific ethnological author of our day, Professor Adolf Bastian, has composed a sort of résumé of the different views ever held by the nations of the globe respecting the terrestrial and celestial *world*, its origin, constitution, government, prospects, and presumable end. This is a broad subject, and in fact there is hardly any topic upon which may not be found in Bastian's book the historic views held by the seers of antiquity or the philosophers of modern times. The book naturally begins with the speculations upon creation, the atmosphere, chaos, the different heavens superposed upon each other (spheres), primordial waters and earthy deposits therefrom; then follow: the origin of organic creation, first man, the sexes, paradise, tutelary genii, fire worship. After this Bastian goes on to describe all the multifarious views entertained by Christians, Buddhists, Jews, Islamites, Chinese and by many polytheistic nations upon the soul, the thinking power, atomistics, life, ghosts, and conscience; then upon earthquakes, volcanism and other natural phenomena. Readers who have patience enough to work through this labyrinth of information will be especially benefited by the discussion of the philosophies of primitive nations, as Polynesians, Siberians, and Africans, for Bastian is especially familiar with these. The three indexes of subjects make it possible to find in the book whatever the reader may want from the overwhelming flood of facts, names, and dates, but unfortunately authors are not cited by volume and page. Important quotations on certain national customs, philosophies, and theosophic ideas are often given verbatim in the author's own language.

A. S. G.